

An Obituary to Chuckle About

Do you ever read the obituaries? My guess is that the older you are, the more likely you are to let your eyes drift over to that section of the newspaper.

As one comedian said, you should check it just to make certain your name's not printed there. Of course, some of the younger people are asking, "What's a newspaper?"

An interesting obituary appeared in the *Chattanooga Times Free Press* in December of last year, and it was good for a chuckle or two. The obit was for Katy Lynn McDonald, 80 years old, and it contained all kinds of praise for her virtues as a human being, and upon reading further, some of her eccentricities.

McDonald was described as "an amazing gal, part saint and part sinner, all bundled up into one marvelous package."

One paragraph related that she was "preceded in death by the father of her four children, Charles Alan McDonald, whom she loved to her dying day, and her beloved family of pets: Simon the Siamese cat; Peanut the wiener dog; Sugar the howling dog; Daisy the very-special-extremely-important stray dog; and most notably, Jack, her darling mutt who once lost his tail in an unfortunate accident, whereupon Mom saved the tail in the freezer "... just in case ... (go figure)."

Later in the obituary, we read, "She left behind a lot of old stuff that her kids don't know what to do with. Anyone interested in some nick-nacks, a bell, some art books, gardening tools, a couch, or old jewelry, please wait the appropriate amount of time to reach out. Tomorrow should be fine."

After listing her church where friends would be received and a service would be held, there was this final notice:

"Finally, the family asks that, in lieu of flowers, please write your Congressman and ask for the repeal of Daylight Saving Time. We think Mom would like it if we were all on the Lord's time."

My bet is that you have not seen an obituary anything like this.

I don't know about repealing Daylight Saving Time, but I found that to be quite a refreshing approach to the death of a loved one who evidently had a good life and a strong faith, who loved her family, her pets and her God.

That's the way a Christian's death should be greeted. There should be a celebration of a life well-lived and an anticipation of a life now lived in the presence of a loving God.

And what a glorious life that will be!

But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love Him" (1 Corinthians 2:9 ESV).